

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method in a communication system, said system comprising a controller and a first station for communication with a second station with variable transmission power over a radio connection, wherein the controller provides the first station with a target for a transmission parameter of the radio connection and the first station adjusts the transmission power of the second station on basis of the target, comprising:

monitoring for a predefined condition;

upon occurrence of the predefined condition, preventing use of a target for the transmission parameter exceeding a limit value for the target for the transmission parameter;

receiving the target for the transmission parameter from the controller at the first station; and

creating a further target for the transmission parameter at the first station for use in the transmission power adjustment, wherein the further target corresponds to the target received from the controller until the predefined condition is detected whereafter the further target is prevented to exceed the limit value for the target and the target received from the controller is ignored.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein use of a target for the transmission parameter exceeding the limit value is prevented at the first station.

3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein use of a target for the transmission parameter exceeding the limit value is prevented at the controller.

4. (previously presented) A method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the limit value equals with the target for the transmission parameter in use at the moment of detecting the predefined condition.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the target for the transmission parameter is held at the limit value until the condition is over.

6. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predefined condition comprises a temporary power limitation situation at the first station.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predefined condition comprises an overload situation at the first station.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predefined condition comprises a failure in the communication system.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring of the occurrence of the predefined condition is based on determination of the interference power of the radio connection.

10. (previously presented) A method in according to claim 1, wherein the target for the transmission parameter comprises connection quality target.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the target for the transmission parameter comprises signalling energy/noise target.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the target for the transmission parameter comprises a target transmission power level of the transmission from the second station.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of preventing the target for the transmission parameter to exceed the limit value comprises ignoring power control commands at the first station until the predefined condition is over.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of preventing of the target for the transmission parameter to exceed the predefined value comprises preventing a generation of new power control commands at the controller until the predefined condition is over.

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the controller controls the transmission powers between the first station and the second station by means of outer loop power control.

16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising steps of:

detecting a difference between the value of the target for the transmission parameter provided by the controller and the value of the target for the transmission parameter used for power control by the first station after the predefined condition is over; and

reducing the difference between the said two target values.

18. (original) A method according to claim 17, wherein reducing of the difference is based on history information of the target used for the power control prior the detection of the condition.

19. (original) A method according to claim 17, wherein the step of reducing the difference comprises changing the value of the target provided by the controller to equal values of the target used by the first station for controlling the transmission power at the moment the condition is detected to be over.

20. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein the difference between the said two target values is reduced gradually.

21. (original) A method according to claim 20, wherein the gradual reducing of the difference comprises steps of;

ignoring a request from the controller to reduce the transmission power until the difference between the target values used by the first station and provided by the controller is below a predefined level; and

subtracting a predefined amount from the difference as response to said request.

22. (original) A method according to claim 21, wherein the predefined amount corresponds the requested decrease of the transmission power.

23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the gradual reducing of the difference comprises requesting a decrease of the transmission power by an amount that is greater than the amount of decrease requested in a normal mode of operation until the difference between the target values used by the first station and provided by the controller is below a predefined level.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the transmission power control is based on use of relative power control requests.

25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the communication system comprises a further station similar to the first station and the controller controls the transmission power of the second station by providing both the first and the further station with targets for the transmission parameter.

26. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein connections between the first station and other stations are adjusted in a priority order.

27. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a radio network controller of a cellular communication system, the first station comprises a base station of the cellular communication system and the second station comprises a mobile station, and wherein the transmission power to be adjusted comprises transmission power from at least one mobile station towards at least one base station.

28. (currently amended) A communication system comprising:
a controller arranged to control transmission power of stations;
a first station and a second station capable of providing a communication path therebetween, wherein the controller is arranged to provide the first station with a target for use in control of the transmission power of the second station;
monitoring means for monitoring for a predefined condition; and
means for preventing use of a target for the transmission parameter exceeding a limit value for the target for the transmission parameter upon occurrence of the predefined condition,

the first station comprising a first target functionality for receiving the target from the controller and a further target functionality for generating a further target for the transmission parameter, wherein the arrangement is such that the further target is used for the power control of the second station and corresponds to the target provided by the controller unless the predefined condition is detected whereafter the further target is set such that the limit value for the target for the transmission parameter is not exceeded.

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A communication system according to claim 29 28, further comprising detecting means for detecting a difference between the target and the further target and recovery means for reducing the difference after the predefined condition is over.

31. (original) A communication system according to claim 30, wherein the recovery means are arranged to reduce the difference gradually.

32. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 28, wherein the controller comprises a radio network controller of a cellular communication system, the first station comprises a base station of the cellular communication system and the second station comprises a mobile station, and wherein the transmission power to be adjusted comprises transmission power from at least one mobile station towards at least one base station.

33. (currently amended) A station of a communication system, said station controlling transmission power of a further station transmitting towards the station, wherein the station is arranged to:

receive a target for a transmission parameter provided by a controller of the communications system for use in the control of transmission power of the further station;

monitor for a predefined condition; and

upon occurrence of the predefined condition, to prevent use of targets for the transmission parameter exceeding a limit value for the target for the transmission parameter,

said station further comprising a first target functionality for receiving the target for the transmission parameter provided by the controller and a further target functionality for generating a further target for the transmission parameter, wherein the arrangement is such that the further target is used for the power control of the further station and corresponds to the target received from the controller unless the predefined condition is detected whereafter the further target is set by the further target functionality such that the limit value for the target is not exceeded.

34. (canceled)

35. (currently amended) A station according to claim 34 33, further comprising detecting means for detecting a difference between the target and the further target and recovery means for reducing the difference after the predefined condition is over.

36. (previously presented) A station according to claim 35, wherein the recovery means are arranged to reduce the difference gradually.